



Sermon

of the *Sword-Bishop*

Holy Archangel Michael Protector of the Holy Church

Dearly beloved!

How are we to imagine holy Archangel Michael? One may think that he is a great, mighty army commander with an enormous sword. Often he is pictured carrying a spear. Man imagines him great and mighty, and it is just as well. For we are human beings with feelings and are supposed to make good use of the fantasy which GOD gave us. However, is our imagination correct? Should we not constantly educate ourselves anew in keeping with Sacred Scripture and GOD's revelations? One thing is clear: however magnificent man imagines the First Angel of Heaven, our view compared to the reality of this holy Archangel will always be a mere nothingness, will always be just an inkling of a dry speck of dust compared to all the deserts of the earth and the universe.

Since it is impossible for us, human beings, to imagine or visualize the holy Archangel as he really is, he always shows himself when appearing to a chosen soul in line with the restricted, human comprehension. In this way he often appeared in Levite clothes, in a white, long coat, the alb with stole, especially when he carried the incense up to GOD. Therefore, he is also called the thurifer Angel. For in the Old Covenant he often stood in the Sanctuary and saw to it that the incense, which was always burnt to the glory of GOD there, would also spiritually rise up to GOD. Therefore, we also take incense today in order to allow st Michael to render this honorary service to GOD.

Whenever I see Michael come striding, I am deeply impressed by it every time. It is a stride as only he can perform, the highest in rank, the first before GOD's throne. He, the chief commander of countless hosts of the most powerful Angel fighters. Powerful is he and yet so natural! So exalted and yet so affectionate! This way I could go on for quite a while.

How often is there fear of man amongst Christians. „Yes, we do see that there is something wrong with the Church!“ people say but are too cowardly to stand up to it. Still others believe they are quite godly when they say: „GOD will intervene eventually!“ Yet how did st Michael the Archangel respond? He stood up although he was a „lesser“ one, and called out in zealous love for his LORD: „Who is like unto GOD!“

Mighty is the Angel! – Imagine on each planet billions of earthquakes and on each peak of their numerous mountains gigantic fire-spitting volcanoes. Now gather these elemental powers and bursting forces and lay them in the spiritual heart of st Michael the Archangel – it will still be a nothingness. And yet, what humbleness is in him. If, for instance, a priest comes, he steps aside; not, however, on account of the person but because he sees in the power of the priest something of the power of his GOD and Master.

Let us pray to, invoke and venerate st Michael the Archangel as Patron of the fighters of CHRIST that he may protect CHRIST's Church and lead her to victory! Amen!

Excerpt from the sermon of 12 March 2000



Schwert-Bischof
JESU CHRISTI

**Be blessed by GOD TRINITY,
the + FATHER and the + SON
and the + HOLY GHOST. Amen!**

Schwert-Bischof
JESU CHRISTI
SD.

Patron of the Fighters of CHRIST

St Michael has many patronages such as being the Patron of the dying. One patronage, however, has so far been left unmentioned by the Church: he is the Patron of holy Confirmation, the Patron of those confirmed, the Patron of the fighters of CHRIST! After all, he is the first and most powerful fighter of GOD, whom GOD elected to lead the entire heavenly host. To think that a single Angel would be able to conquer a whole army of soldiers by a mere flick of his finger. Not just one Angel, but hosts of Angels fight for Archangel Michael – what power! And yet, when his feast – to GOD’s pleasure – is celebrated, he will come in every modest little mountain church no matter how small it may be because for him it is not the furnishing of the room that is important but JESUS and His Sacrificing, the presence of his Empress Mary and the Saints and the hearts of those attending. In St. Peter’s, therefore, he does not come in a more brilliant fashion than in the little mountain church.

Because Michael as the first of the Angels rose up against Lucifer and called out: „Who is like unto GOD!“, he received as a reward what Lucifer had. From a lower choir where he was before, he was as the first of the Angels raised to the highest rank, though not in the manner of the Seraphim and Cherubim in the worship of GOD. And yet we know that GOD placed a Cherub with a sword at the entrance of Paradise to guard it. It is interesting that in Heaven before the battle of the faithful against the unfaithful Angels there was no such thing as a reward. This was only afterwards initiated by GOD. And it is interesting that GOD answers likewise to our actions: „I will repay each one of you according to his deeds.“

St. Michael Wanted to Come to Us

The statue of st Michael the Archangel here in our Church once stood in a church of the official Church and was thrown out from there on a rubbish tip and then brought to us by someone. When thinking it over, st Michael the Archangel said: „I wanted to be with you!“ – GOD gives us human beings something supernatural often combined with apparently quite natural events. All we need are open eyes and open hearts. Symbolically that is rather well-worded: the official Church has thrown Archangel Michael out of the Church (many priests do not believe either in Angels or in hell, and consequently throw the Angels out of the church), and st Michael the Archangel was found and wanted to come to us since we have the mission “Battle against Satan” and greatly venerate him.

Prince Michael, Rise ...

I have been waiting for a long time to be allowed to call st Michael the Archangel in a special manner. But time is still not ripe for it. – Now I ask you: do you remember to invoke st Michael the Archangel, the first Angel of Heaven? However, not that he may keep an eye on your milk on the stove to prevent it from boiling over, nor that he may help you to tie your shoes. Not for trifles is he to be invoked – your Guardian Angel is in charge of that – but you should call upon Archangel Michael for the Church of CHRIST. For this purpose there is a wonderful, old prayer, which says: „You Prince of the heavenly Hosts, Prince Michael, rise from Your throne and come to our aid with Your countless hosts ...“

St Michael the Archangel’s task is also to protect and defend GOD’s creation. Only as far as GOD permits, though. What do you think st Michael the Archangel would have done when JESUS was flogged with lead-tipped scourges, crowned with thorns and was crucified if GOD had not bound or, to be more precise, sealed him? What do you believe would he have done? Even today a great many Angels are sealed, are not empowered to display their might, otherwise: poor humankind! – This is often also the case with people whom GOD has called. They can be so inconspicuous amongst us that at first they are misjudged. Not until their seals have been loosed by GOD, will they work or act, even if this working only takes an hour, so much so that people will be greatly surprised at it. – So if you would like to ask st Michael the Archangel for something private, then ask him to teach you through your Guardian Angel to fight for the interests of GOD.

Are You a Fighter of GOD?

Are we fighters of GOD? – Should we not cover ourselves with sackcloth and ashes cringing with shame when this mighty Prince and Archangel appears? Do we fight for the interests of GOD? Or are we mere lookers-on of the raging godlessness while moaning and groaning? I have never heard Archangel Michael moan. When he is bound, that is when he is no longer allowed to do anything because he has to respect the free will of man, then he will just call out: „You will see: no one is like GOD!“

It is not GOD who punishes us, mankind punishes itself by disregarding the order and Commandments of GOD. To think that up above there we have such mighty, absolutely invincible heroes for allies. – Come, let us also become unconquerable together with our Guardian Angel.
